REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action

All of the pending claims 1-15 were rejected as being anticipated by European Patent App. No. EP 0 889 636 A2 (Ohta).

Statement of Substance of Interview

A telephone interview was conducted in connection with the above-identified patent application on February 8, 2005. The substance of that interview is as follows:

A. <u>Brief Description of the Nature of Any Exhibit Shown or Any Demonstration Conducted:</u>

None.

- B. <u>Identification of the Claims Discussed</u>:
 Claims 1 and 9.
- C. Identification of the Specific Prior Art Discussed:
 European Patent App. No. EP 0 889 636 A2 (Onta)
- D. Identification of the Principal Proposed Amendments of a Substantive Nature Discussed, Unless these are Already Described on the Interview Summary Form Completed by the Examiner:

Proposed amendments to claim 1 would clarify that the input document contains an input image and surrounding white-space and that only the input image is scanned. Also, it was proposed that the substance of claim 9 would be incorporated into claim 1 in that the size of the input image would be detected automatically and the input image would be enlarged or reduced automatically.

E. <u>Brief Identification of the General Thrust of the Principal Arguments</u>

<u>Presented to the Examiner:</u>

Ohta discloses a system in which an editing server and a plurality of client computers are capable of communicating with one another and an edited image can be generated by the plurality of client computers. However, Ohta does not disclose scanning only an input image and not the surrounding

white-space and automatically reproducing the input image on the output document.

F. General Indication of any other Pertinent Matters Discussed:

None.

G. General Results or Outcome of the Interview:

Examiner will consider the Amendment After Final and determine whether a further search is required.

New Claims

In view of the topics discussed in the telephone interview, claims 1-16 have been cancelled and new claims 17-20 have been added. Claim 17 is based upon claims 1 and 9, while claim 19 is based upon claims 12, 14 and 15. The references cited do not teach or suggest the claimed method and system.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 17-20) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this Amendment After Final. However, the undersigned attorney of record hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call John Zanghi, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN, MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

Date

2/11/05

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